The Official MONTANA 1979 Highway Map

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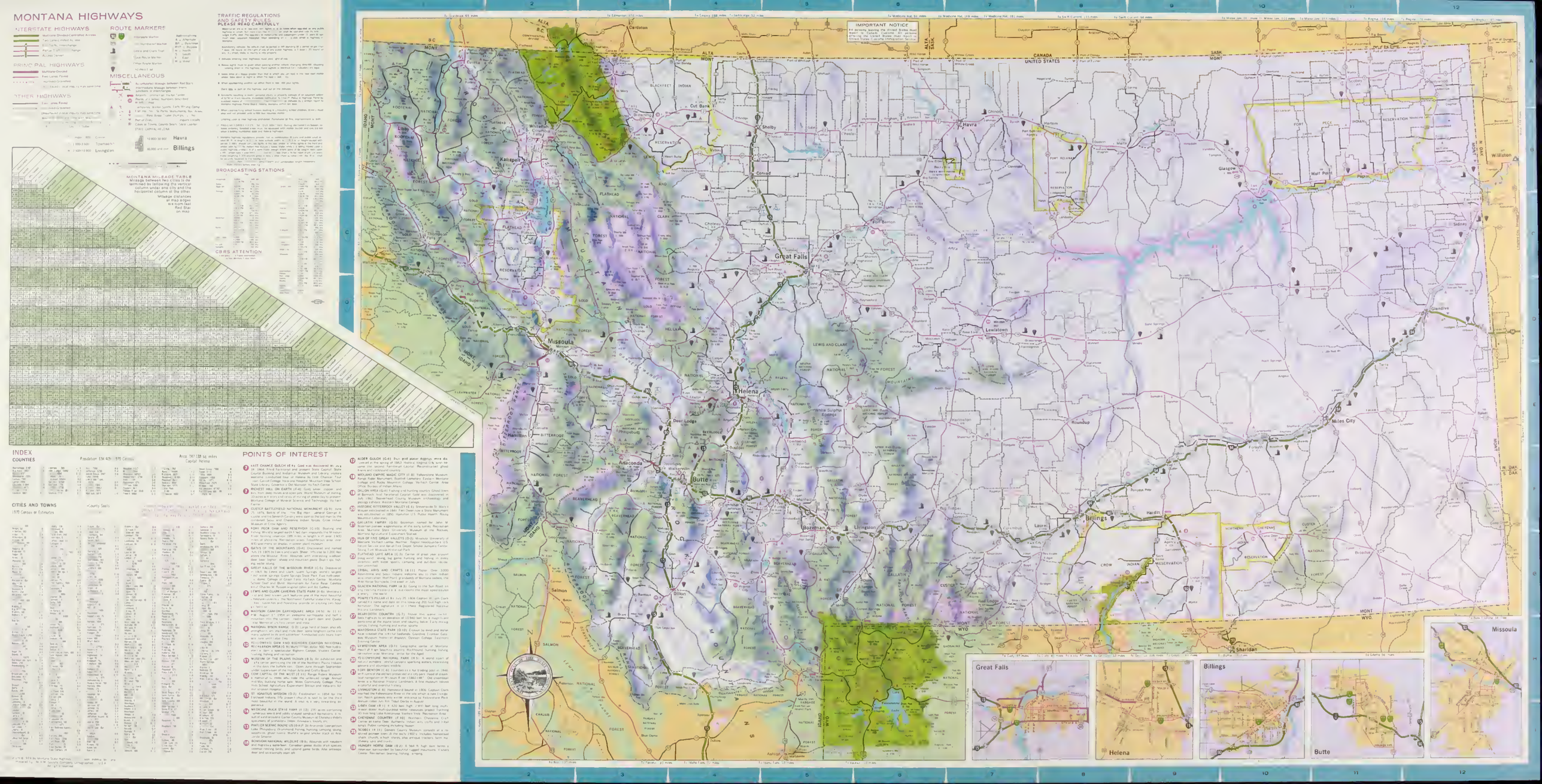
Cover photo: Lewis and Clark first described the "Gates of the Mountains" on the Missouri River north of Helena.

last of the big time splendors

MONTANA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MONTANA...last of the big time splendors

1. Montanans choose to preserve and restore their past and here in Virginia City they brought a ghost town back to life. You'll find restored ghost towns throughout the state hauntingly reminiscent of their historic heyday.

2. Pompeys Pillar on the Yellowstone River in southeastern Montana bears the only remaining physical evidence of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Capt. Clark carved his name and date on this rock July 25, 1806. This National Historic Landmark is one of many in our hist ry rich state.

3. Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area in southeastern Montana is one of America's most scenic get aways. Once you get into the many areas for which Montana is famous, you'll know why the state is called "The Last of the Big Time Splendors."

4. Blue ribbon trout streams ribbon their way through Montana and the big ones can usually be found in any of the national forests in the state.

5. Pictograph Cave State Monument in south central Montana commemorates a significant archaeological site. Indian pictographs on the cave walls make a visit here a must for families with children.

6. Yellowstone Falls, probably the most photographed waterfall in the West, continues to serve the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone National Park. How many wonders can exist in the America's biggest and the world's first national park? You'll lose count as you wander through 3,500 square miles of this great natural preserve. You'll return in time to an era of volcanic activity when you tour the hydrothermal geyser basins and bubbling mud pots. You'll sweat with anticipation the rise of Old Faithful geyser and find he's never been late for one of his hourly eruptions. Descants to the bottom of deafening waterfalls humble the most seasoned of tourists. Three Montana entrances permit you to visit a world of solitude and breath taking scenery. Horizon wide lakes, unfettered rivers, and trails you'll share with deer, moose, coyotes, elk and buffalo make Yellowstone a most unique paradise.

Yellowstone's summer season extends from early May to mid October while winter activities run from December through March. Campgrounds are used extensively in summer. A winter lodge operates mid December to mid March. For further information contact the Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, 82190.

7. Backpacking offers freedom found in no other type of wilderness travel and Montana offers you hundreds of square miles in which you'll find the solace of wilderness. Experienced outfitters can plan your family's wilderness adventure and provide all the equipment you need.

8. Find a wide variety of fine artisan wares in major cities and small communities noted for their festivals and fairs. Numerous galleries throughout the state feature a wealth of western paintings, sculpture, pottery, weaving and photography.

9. Makoshika State Park in historic eastern Montana gives you a chance to view the results of erosion by wind and water in this colorful badlands recreation area. Camp amid fossils and petrified wood.

Montana State Parks, Monuments and Recreation Areas

4 LEWIS AND CLARK CAVERNS S.P. Yellowstone County, ...
Montana's finest and best known giant cave and one of the largest limestone caverns in the Northwest. Features an underground stream, subterranean lake, and many unusual formations. Three scenic miles of trails wind through the area. Open daily during the summer months. Picnic and camping area. Just off I-90, 17 miles west of Bozeman.

BANNACK S.P. Beaverhead County, Western County
Montana's first territorial capital. A ghost town, well maintained, full of history. Off I-15, 24 miles south of Dillon.

MISSOURI HEADWATERS S.P. Gallatin County, ...
Where the Jefferson, Madison and Gallatin Rivers join to form the Missouri River. Fishing, boating, hiking, picnicking, camping. Off I-90, 5 miles west of Three Forks.

MISSOURI RIVER BREAKS S.P. Chouteau County, ...
Where the Missouri River has cut through the prairie to form steep breaks and buttes. Fishing, boating, hiking, camping, picnicking. Off U.S. 87, 20 miles northeast of Fort Benton.

MISSOURI RIVER CANYON RECREATION AREA Gallatin County, ...
The Recreation Road begins approximately 25 miles north of Helena, just off I-15 and continues north along the Missouri River for about 30 miles. Camping, fishing and picnic areas are available along this scenic riverside area.

CHIEF JOSEPH BATTLEFIELD MONUMENT S.P.
Marks the final battle and surrender of Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce. After a battle of five days, the famed warrior said, "From where the sun ... no more forever." 17 miles south of Chinook.

CHIEF PLENTY COUPS STATE MONUMENT S.P. Yellowstone County, ...
This monument commemorates a legend of an archeological and Indian Police chief. 12 miles north, East of Billings.

PICTOGRAPH CAVE STATE MONUMENT S.P. Yellowstone County, ...
This monument commemorates a legend of an archeological and Indian Police chief. 12 miles north, East of Billings.

NATURAL BRIDGE STATE MONUMENT S.P. Yellowstone County, Beartooth Mountains, ...
Beartooth Mountains, ... Indian Police ... 20 miles south of Billings.

MADISON BUFFALO JUMP STATE MONUMENT S.P. Gallatin County, Yellowstone County, ...
This buffalo jump overlooks the Madison River and is one of the largest and most ... Indians used by prehistoric man. It is believed that as many as 5,000 years ago, or more, Indians ... a cliff over which they stampeded buffalo. Off I-90, 7 miles south of Three Forks.

MISSOURI HEADWATERS STATE PARK S.P. Yellowstone County, ...
Three of the largest rivers in the West, the Jefferson, Madison and Gallatin, flow together to form the Missouri. Fishing, boating, hiking, picnicking, camping. Off I-90, 5 miles west of Three Forks.

GIANT SPRINGS STATE PARK C.S. Cascade County, ...
One of the largest freshwater springs in the world. Giant Springs flows at a measured rate of 156 million gallons of water per day. Approximately 1,700 years old. Park's centerpiece is a 200 foot fountain.

GLACIER COUNTY
- Cave Discovery ... and Park, 5 ...
- [illegible] Memorial, Charles S. Woodland, 4 m. ... of Browning
- Fish Farm, ... of Cut Bank
- Indian ... National Forest, 5
- Mary Gibbs Park, Historical ... of Valier, 5
- Meadowlark Country Line Museum, Meadowlark
- Museum of the Plains Indian, 5 ... of Browning
- St. Ignatius Mission, ... Ignatius, 8
- Two Medicine Eight Site, Lewis and Clark, 1 and 2

CHARLES RUSSELL COUNTY
- Bair Museum, ... the Bear, 5
- Charles M. Russell, Charles M. Russell, 1 mi. from Fort Benton, C, 6
- Fort Benton, Historical, at 13th, fort, C, 6
- Fort Benton Historic District, ... nearby, Fort Benton, Fort, 6
- Grand Union Hotel, Fort Benton, C, 6
- Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Fort, C, 6
- Omaha Trail, Portage, ... of Great Falls, Lewis and Clark, 1 and 2
- Judith Landing, Historical District, Missouri River, Landing, Place, C, 1
- Tent and Tepee Camp at Slaughter River, Landing, C, 1
- Walter Russell, Bronze, Lake, Memorial, Giants, Portage, C, 7
- Museum, Fort, ... Benton, 5
- Museum, Fort, ... Benton, 5
- Perry, Frank, Charles M. Russell, historical, Giants, Portage, C, 6
- Russell, Charles M., Original, Studio, and, House, Great, Falls, D-6
- Ulm, Pishkun, Ulm, Pishkun, Site, C, 6
- We Chose Our Comfort, Site, Whitlash, Chief, of, Buffalo, June, 8

BROADWATER COUNTY
- Fort Logan, Agency, Private, H
- Fort Union, Early, Trading, Post, E, 13
- Hayden, Site, and, Historic, Indian, T, 8, 1, Townships, 6, 12
- Kelly, Nevada, Cemetery, Townships, E, 12
- Toll, Hill, Rock, Site, Near, Toll, Hill, and, Near, Kingdom, Portage, 9, 12

YELLOWSTONE TREASURE COUNTIES
- Billy, Hanger, Station, Former, Ranger, Station, 1, E, Bridge, and, Forest, P, E
- Buffalo, Bill, House, 6, 21, N, 25th, St, Billings, 8, 8
- Bighorn, Canyon, National, Recreation, Area, Lodge, 8, 3
- Bridge, Head, Ranch, Lewis, and, Clark, trail, 8
- Big, Horn, Canyon, Site, Bighorn, Mts, 8
- Boothill, Cemetery, National, Historic, Landmark, 8
- Billings, Parmly, Billings, Memorial, Library, museum, building, 8, 4
- Burton, K. Wheeler, House, 1, 1/2, E, 2nd, St, Butte, 7, 8

GLACIER COUNTY
- Agriculture, Dept. Area, west, of, Babb, off, MT, 5, 17
- Beaches, Pool, and, Picnic, Area, off, Hwy, 89, and, Hwy, 17, 89, 4
- Big, Arm, Recreation, Area, north, 7, 8, miles, on, Flathead, Lake, 7, 8, 10, C, 8
- Bridge, Lake, Recreation, Area, west, of, Babb, off, U.S. 89, 17, 8
- Lake, Francis, Recreation, Area, north, of, Polson, 7, 8, 10, C, 8
- Kings, Point, Recreation, Area, northeast, of, Polson, Flathead, Lake, 8, 10, C, 8
- Lake, Mary, Recreation, Area, west, of, Kalispell, off, U.S. 2, 8
- Lone, Pine, State, Park, south, of, Kalispell, Flathead, Lake, off, U.S. 93, C, 8
- Peterson, Flats, Recreation, Area, west, of, Somers, off, U.S. 93, C, 8
- Wayfarer, Recreation, Area, south, of, Whitefish, off, U.S. 93, B, 7
- Whitefish, Bay, Recreation, Area, south, of, Whitefish, off, U.S. 93, 2
- Yellow, Bay, Recreation, Area, south, of, Bigfork, Flathead, Lake, C, 8

CHARLES RUSSELL COUNTY
- Ashley, Creek, Recreation, Area, northeast, of, Lewistown, off, U.S. 191, 8
- Judith, Landing, Recreation, Area, 5, 8, 191, or, Big, Sandy, 6, 8
- Pishkun, Reservoir, Area, 5, 8
- Ulm, Pishkun, State, Monument, ... miles, northeast, of, Ulm, off, I-15, C, 6
- Upper, Missouri, River, Breaks, National, Monument, ... 17, miles, southeast, of, Loma, off, I-15, C, 5
- Virgelle, Ferry, Recreation, Area, 25, miles, northeast, of, Lewistown, off, U.S. 191, B, 2
- Wild, Horse, Island, State, Park, ... miles, northeast, of, Fort, Peck, off, U.S. 191, B, 1

MISSOURI-MADISON COUNTIES
- Bear, Trap, Canyon, Recreation, Area, north, of, Jonesboro, C, 12
- Historic, Reservoir, Area, west, of, Ennis, off, U.S. 287, E, 8
- Price, Creek, Recreation, Area, southeast, of, Ulm, on, C, 7, 8
- Missouri, Headwaters, State, Park, south, of, Bozeman, Three, Forks, area, C, 11
- Red, Mountain, X, miles, north, of, Milltown, C, 11

SWEET GRASS-PARK COUNTIES
- Beaverhead, Rock, Recreation, Area, 23, miles, east, of, Melville, on, U.S. 10, F, 7
- Canyon, Ferry, Recreation, Area, east, of, Helena, off, U.S. 12, E, 7
- Cedar, Creek, Recreation, Area, 51, miles, southeast, of, Helena, on, U.S. 287, E, 7
- Deadman's, Basin, Recreation, Area, west, of, Harlowton, off, U.S. 12, B, 7
- Painted, Rocks, Recreation, Area, south, of, Hamilton, off, U.S. 93, B, 8
- Mount, Haggin, Recreation, Area, E, 7
- Lost, Creek, State, Park, northwest, of, Anaconda, off, U.S. 10, E, 7
- Spokane, Creek, Trout, Management, Area, C, 7
- Twin, Bridges, Reservoir, State, Monument, E, 7
- Upper, Missouri, River, Breaks, National, Monument, ... 19, miles, southeast, of, Fort, Benton, off, U.S. 87, B, 3
- Granite, Ghost, Town, State, Monument, E, 7

CUSTER COUNTIES
- Medicine, Rocks, State, Park, ... off, U.S. 12, Ashland, P, 11
- Tongue, River, Reservoir, Area, 16, miles, south, of, Ashland, on, Forest, Service, Road, 42, P, 11
- Yellowstone, River, Recreation, Area, E, 17

Key numbers refer to location on the Highway map.
Camping and fee.
Parks are required to be at least 10 acres in State and National Parks.

National Register of Historic Places

- Butte, Historic, District, The, richest, hill, on, earth, F, 6
- Carroll, ... well, adorned, Gothic, Revival, Mansion, E, 6
- Chief, Plenty, Coups, Memorial, Site, Monument, B, 6
- Clark, Mansion, 219, W., 21st, St., Anaconda, F, 7, 8, C, 6
- Clark, Mansion, 70, W., 210, St., Ygnacio, Bldg., E, 6
- Con, Kelly, Miller, Hall, Ambrose, Hall, F
- Former, Executive, Mansion, 2 and 3, Governor's, E, 6
- Fort, Owen, State, Monument, Stevensville, E, 7
- Fort, Peck, Theatre, Fort, Peck, Recreation, Area, Glasgow, C, 1
- Grant-Kohrs, Ranch, Deer, Lodge, E, 7
- Hearst, Hall, Library, Anaconda, F, 8
- Holter, Historic, District, 9, th, to, Lyndale, E, 6
- J. D. Overholt, House, 101, Clark, Ave., Billings, E, 8
- Kleinschmidt, House, 240, W., Main, St., Helena, E, 6
- Lamm, Farm, Bridgehead, Benches, Turnbull, E, 7
- Madison, Buffalo, Jump, State, Monument, Logan, E, 8
- Miners, Union, Hall, C. of, Philipsburg, E, 8
- Missouri, Headwaters, Historic, Granite, Quartz, Town, of, Philipsburg, F, 7
- Old, Fort, Peck, Theatre, Springs, E, 6
- Old, Lamm, and, Power, Building, E, 6
- Parmly, Billings, Memorial, Library, Billings, 10, 1, building, E, 6
- Pictograph, Cave, State, Monument, 7, E, of, Billings, E, 8
- Ruckers, House, 9, 10, Spring, E, 6
- St. Mary's, Mission, Pharmacy, Stevensville, E, 7
- Union, Pacific, Birthplace, of, Missouri, River, E, 7
- Virginia, Street, Lots, Leases, and, Deeds, 1 and 2, E
- Virginia City, Historic, District, 2nd, territorial, Capitol, C-6
- Waterworks, Hill, and, Bath, Houses, Helena, E, 6
- Wells, Cabin, Ranch, Fort, Peck, E, 6
- Wells, Fargo, Building, or, Bozeman, Hall, 10, 6

CUSTER COUNTIES
- Bad, Pass, Trail, Wyman, E, 5
- Cedarville, Historic, District, Canyon, Recreation, Area, E, 6
- Custer, Battlefield, National, Monument, 7, of, Hysham, E, 8
- Fort, Keogh, 1877, 1908, Historic, Site, 6, of, Miles, City, E, 8
- Fort, Peck, 1871, 1908, Historic, Site, E, 6
- Pirogue, Canyon, Bridge, E, 8
- Pompey's, Pillar, Lewis, and, Clark, trail, E, 8
- Battle, of, the, Rosebud, Site, Area, E, 8

NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL
- Yellowstone, Lake, Trail, Near, Huddle, Preserve, Leaves, top, Forest, Supervisor, E, 8

Key numbers refer to location on the Highway map.

10. Lewis and Clark Caverns is Montana's most famous state park and one of the most beautiful underground cavern areas in the country. Easy walk guided tours provide a vacation thrill for the entire family.

11. The waters of Montana are veritable vacations waiting to happen. Whether you prefer a one day lazy fishing trip or an extended float camp vacation to catch some while water you'll enjoy the peace and solitude the many rivers and streams afford.

12. The Firescat by Montana's Charles M. Russell. March is Russell month in Montana highlighted in Great Falls by the annual C.M. Russell Auction of Original Western Art. Art lovers gather from throughout the nation to view and select priceless works of western art. 1979 date: March 15, 16, 17.

13. Autumn in Montana is a spectacle of change. The leaves in their farewell colors, the sky in its deepest blue, the air with its quiet softness. A high-country autumn is a mellow time experience.

14. Skiers find that Montana is that place they knew had to exist where slopes are uncrowded and the powder is theirs. Downhill skiers find 18 areas offering gentle to steep terrain, cross country buffs make pilgrimages to the state's six nordic and touring facilities. Snowmobiling is a popular way to see Montana winters, and Yellowstone winters in particular. Rentals are available at West Yellowstone, Montana.

15. Pronghorn antelope speedsters of the plains pause to have their picture taken. Montana is nature's boundless zoo where when you least expect it you'll spy eagles, elk, black bear, mountain goats, bighorn sheep, deer and coyote. In Montana's zoo, only nature makes the rules.

16. The golden plains of eastern Montana are alive to the horizon and beyond with rich wheat fields and farm lands that provide the essential staff of life to Americans and the rest of the world. The bountiful wheat harvests of Montana are colorful and legendary.

17. Cattle roam ranches in eastern Montana where the front gate may be 40 miles from the front porch, all the room they need to fatten and be sent to markets throughout the country. Cattle ranching is one of the backbones of Montana's economy, and the foundation for such activities as dude ranching, rodeos and roundups.

18. Glacier National Park. Put your feet in the picture: alpine meadows jeweled with wildflowers, a glacier to your left, St. Mary's ice blue lake to your right and as far as the eye can see, soaring peaks and ridges that defy description. The more time you take to sit and listen to the quiet, and to let the years of creation somehow touch you, the more you'll have to remember of Glacier National Park: 1,600 square miles of wilderness, 50 glaciers, 200 lakes and dozens of waterfalls provide the backdrop for eagles, moose, elk, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and wild goats. The Going to the Sun Road crosses the Continental Divide at Logan Pass. campgrounds and comfortable lodges will be found on both sides of the Divide. Hikers and backpackers will find chalets perched on peaks for their mountaintop crossings.

All facilities are open until mid-September. The Going to the Sun Road is usually closed from mid October until late May due to snow conditions. There are guided cross-country ski tours during the winter months. For further information contact the Superintendent, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, Montana, 59936.

For complete information about Montana contact the Travel Promotion Unit, Department of Highways, Helena 59601 for the Vacation Guide and/or the Winter brochure.

State Bird

Western Meadowlark

THE TREASURE STATE

State Grass

Bluebunch Wheatgrass

MONTANA, the nation's fourth largest state, averages 550 miles in length and 275 miles in width. The Continental Divide runs north and south through the western section. The highest point is Granite Peak, 12,799 feet; the lowest is 1,820 feet on the Kootenai River at the Idaho line. Climate varies with topography and altitude. Average annual rainfall is 15 inches varying from 9.69 to over 100 inches. Average daytime temperatures vary from 28 degrees in January to 84.5 degrees in July.

MONTANA was first recorded by French fur traders in 1743. Lewis and Clark explored the area as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1805-06; the first trading post was built in 1807 while the first permanent white settlement was St. Mary's Mission founded in 1841, still standing today. Gold prospectors struck it rich in Bannack in 1862 with later strikes in Virginia City and Helena. The first herd of long horn cattle was trailed from Texas in 1866. The Indian wars ended with Custer's Last Stand in 1876 and a year later Chief Joseph surrendered at the Battle of the Bear's Paw. MONTANA became a territory in 1864 and the 41st state in 1889. Today 6 railroads, 9 bus lines and 4 airlines serve Montana; 9,234 miles of paved urban, secondary, primary and interstate highways cross the state.

MONTANA has a land area of 93,157,952 acres richly endowed with natural resources. In addition to millions of acres of ideal range and cropland, other prominent commodities being utilized for the nation and world are water, copper, timber, coal, lead, oil and natural gas. Livestock is by far the most important agricultural product...but Montana is also a leading producer of wheat, barley, hay and sugar beets. Cash receipts from farm products exceed $982,200,000 while the latest estimated value of mineral production is $685,800,000.

The timber industry produces about 1.4 billion board feet annually. Products include lumber, plywood, pulp and paper, manufactured wood products and over a million Christmas trees. Most of the state's power is hydroelectric, but there are 4 steam generating plants using coal as fuel. Two large additional mine-mouth generating plants are currently under construction. The annual value added by manufacture in Montana is more than $532,200,000 based primarily on processing of raw materials and agricultural commodities.

State Flower

The Bitterroot

State Tree

Ponderosa Pine

State Gem Stones

Montana Agate
Montana Sapphire

State Fish

Blackspotted
Cutthroat Trout

State Flag with Seal

...please drive carefully

The highways of Montana are among America's finest and have been designed to allow the traveler to enjoy all of our magnificent scenery as safely as possible. So enjoy our beauty, and to insure yourself of the best vacation possible, observe traffic regulations and please use your safety belts.

Colonel Joseph R. Sol Chief, Highway Patrol Bureau

A Montana Welcome...

With my wife, Carol, and my sons, Pat and Tom, I'd like to welcome you to Montana.

In the Big Sky state, where the population is small and the land is vast, we Montanans can still see each other as individuals and not as a crowd. That's the way we see visitors, too. As people...as individuals...as potential friends. And we enjoy sharing Montana—this rugged, beautiful, spacious and unspoiled state where we can be together and cherish the time we spend with one another.

Montana's hospitality is legendary. So are its mountains and prairies, its great rivers, the grandeur of its landscape. We like where we are. We like each other. And we'd like to have the pleasure of welcoming you to Montana this year.

Thomas L. Judge

Governor Thomas L. Judge and family.

Montana Department of Highways

Helena, Montana 59601